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## P R E F A C E.

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IN order that this volume should not exceed the size most acceptable to readers, it has been found necessary to confine it to the record of only seven meetings, beginning with the meeting of January and ending with that of October of the current year. The contents, however, are unusually varied, and comprise numerous communications of permanent value and importance. Among them are the paper on Civilization and Savagery, by G. STANLEY HALL; SAMUEL A. GREEN's list of Early American Imprints; the PRESIDENT's paper on The Constitutional Ethics of Secession; MORTON DEXTER's paper on The Members of the Pilgrim Company at Leyden; ANDREW McFARLAND DAVIS's paper on The Merchants' Notes of 1733; the remarks by the PRESIDENT and WILLIAM W. GOODWIN on the battles of Marathon and Salamis; the PRESIDENT's exhaustive paper on an alleged interview between Queen Victoria and Charles Francis Adams, American Minister to Great Britain. The Price Letters, the letters of Benjamin Vaughan, and the letters of Virginians in 1782, 1783, on the adoption of the Federal Constitution, are important contributions to

American history. The personal tributes to deceased members by EDMUND F. SLAFTER, CHARLES ELIOT NORTON, DANIEL H. CHAMBERLAIN, JAMES F. RHODES, CARL SCHURZ, and others will not fail to attract notice. There are also memoirs of George B. Chase, written by his son and communicated by the PRESIDENT, of Horace E. Scudder by ALEXANDER V. G. ALLEN, of John D. Washburn by HENRY S. NOURSE, whose lamented death occurred only two days after he had read the proof-sheets, and of William S. Appleton by CHARLES C. SMITH, each accompanied by a portrait.

For the Committee,

CHARLES C. SMITH.

BOSTON, December 21, 1903.